

Mont. 17-51-22

c. 1877

Robert Williams Log House (Site)  
Poolesville vicinity, Jerusalem community  
Private

This one and a half story log house contained four rooms, two down and two up, and was similar to other log houses built in the late 1800's by Black landowning families in rural Montgomery County. Larger than the earlier slave houses, they represented a measure of improvement in the living conditions of black families in the years soon after emancipation.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi #  
M-17-51-22

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Robert Williams House (Site)

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER North side of Jerusalem Church Rd.

CITY/TOWN  
Poolesville (Jerusalem)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

☒ VICINITY OF

3

STATE  
Md.COUNTY  
Montgomery**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	NO	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**NAME  
M.E. and E. Moore

Telephone #: 972-7224

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 143 Jerusalem Church Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Poolesville

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20837

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Registry of Deeds

Liber #: 4692

Folio #: 21

STREET &amp; NUMBER

County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M. 17-51-22

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☒ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

According to Mae Isabelle Moore Owens and William Moore, this log house, which has since been destroyed, was a four room dwelling, two rooms down and two up. It resembled the log house of the Dennis Hamilton family in Jerusalem community, which still remains and which has been described in depth (Mont. 17-51-9). See descriptions and photographs of h that site.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

*Black History*

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to deed EBP 16/329, Robert Williams purchased this property of 3.75 acres from Leonidas Jones in 1877. This was part of the Aix La Chappelle tract. Robert Williams was therefore one of the first of the Black landowners to settle in the Jerusalem.

According to the Centennial of the Jerusalem Baptist Church, 1874-1974, Robert Williams founded the Jerusalem Baptist Church by calling upon other families in the community to come to his log house to hear the gospel. Since church tradition maintains that this was in 1874, it is most likely that Williams was living here before the land was formally purchased by him from Leonidas Jones in 1877.

According to the U.S. census of 1900 for Montgomery County, Maryland, Robert Williams was born in 1838 in Virginia. This makes him one of the oldest of the founders of the Jerusalem community. No descendants of him were located, nor any family photographs.

Like the other families in Jerusalem, Williams was related to his neighbors. His wife Millie Dorsey, born in 1825 according to the 1900 census, was the sister of the father of James, George, (Charles) Frank, and Leanna Dorsey (according to William Moore).

Williams donated a portion of this property to the Jerusalem Baptist Church, though the deed was not recorded. That land is now used for a cemetery.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Md.  
 Oral interviews with William Moore and Mae Isabelle Moore Owens,  
 Jerusalem community, September-October, 1978 by George  
 McDaniel, not taped.  
Centennial of the Jerusalem Baptist Church, 1874-1974.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

George McDaniel, Historian, and Weillie Stubbs, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

SPT

DATE

10/78

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~  
~~The Shaw House, 21 State Circle~~  
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~  
~~(301) 267-1438~~

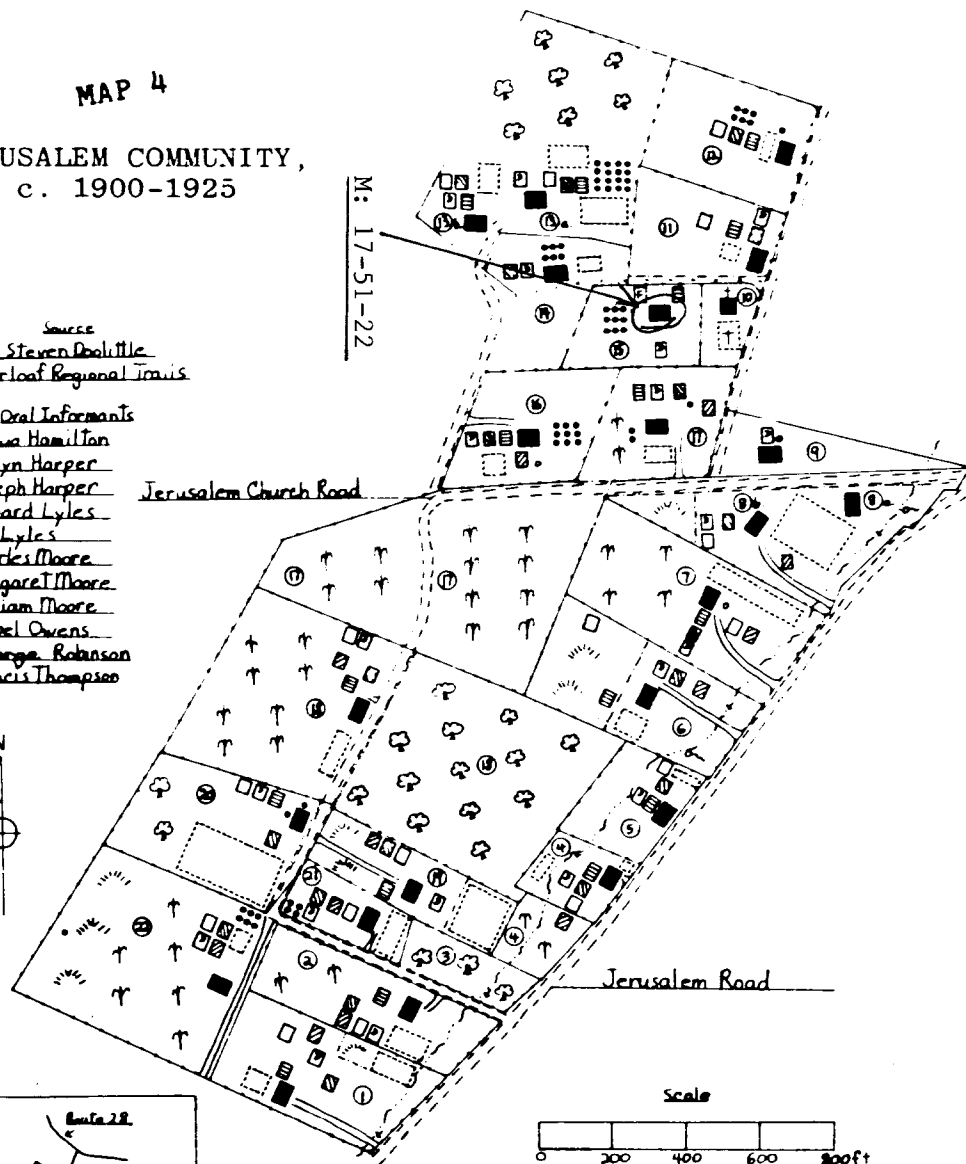
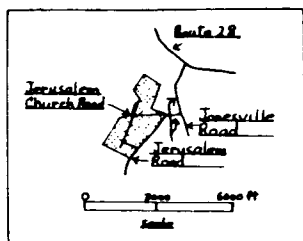
SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS

Box 87, Sugarloaf  
 Dickerson, Md. 20768  
 (301) 926-4810

MAP 4  
JERUSALEM COMMUNITY,  
c. 1900-1925

Source  
Steven Doolittle  
Sugarloaf Regional Trails

Oral Informants  
Joshua Hamilton  
Evelyn Harper  
Joseph Harper  
Howard Lyles  
Ora Lyles  
Charles Moore  
Margaret Moore  
William Moore  
Isabel Owens  
George Robinson  
Francis Thompson



CHURCH	+
CEMETERY	+
LODGE	L
COMMUNITY CENTER	C
STORE	S
POST OFFICE	P
SCHOOL	■
DWELLING	■
PRIVY	□
STABLE	▨
MEAT HOUSE	▨
HEN HOUSE	▨
MILK HOUSE	▨
CORN/FEED HOUSE	▨
PIG PEN	□
GARDEN	■
PASTURE	☼
CORNFIELD	☼
HAY FIELD	☼
ORCHARD	☼
FOREST	☼
THICKET	☼
WELL	○
SPRING	○
STREAM	~
POND	⊖
PARCEL BOUNDARY	---
FENCED PARCEL BDY.	---
FENCE	---
DIRT ROAD	---
LANE	---
PATH	---
STREAM FLOW	→

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE  
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY

Key

1. WILLIAM ROBINSON ESTD.	3.22 AC.
2. SARAH JOHNSON ESTD.	2.00 AC.
3. MILTON HARPER ESTD.	1.00 AC.
4. WILLIAM LYLES ESTD.	2.00 AC.
5. SUSAN PROCTOR ESTD.	1.00 AC.
6. FRANK DORSEY ESTD.	2.90 AC.
7. GEORGE DORSEY ESTD.	4.75 AC.
8a. 1st CLARKE HOME (log)	4.40 AC.
b. 2nd CLARKE HOME (frame)	
9. JERUSALEM PARSONAGE	1.50 AC.
10. JERUSALEM CHURCH	0.50 AC.
11. WILLIAM DORSEY ESTD.	2.00 AC.
12. JAMES DORSEY ESTD.	3.00 AC.
13a. WILLIAM MOORE ESTD.	7.00 AC.
b. HARTLEY MOORE ESTD.	
14. DAVID COPELAND ESTD.	2.00 AC.
15. ROBERT WILLIAMS ESTD.	3.75 AC.
16. WALLACE HAMILTON ESTD.	2.50 AC.
17. DENNIS HAMILTON ESTD.	9.66 AC.
18. CHARLES McPHERSON ESTD.	11.00 AC.
19. LIZZIE GRIMES ESTD.	4.00 AC.
20. GEORGE LYLES ESTD.	3.00 AC.
21. JOHN HARPER ESTD.	1.00 AC.
22. JOHN BALLMAN ESTD.	10.00 AC.

INTER

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